

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 MCT-01 SY-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-11 EB-08 COME-00 TRSE-00 SCS-06 OPR-02
CA-01 AID-05 /094 W
-----125087 270105Z /14

R 251055Z MAY 78
FM AMCONSUL MILAN
TO AMEMBASSY ROME
SECSTATE WASHDC 6010
AMCONSUL GENOA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MILAN 0801

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ASEC, IT
SUBJ: RED BRIGADES GENOA THREAT

REF: GENOA 288 AND 289

1. IMMEDIATELY AFTER RECEIPT OF GENOA'S ALERT ON THREAT TO GE (GETSCO), WE MET WITH GE MANAGER OF CAORSO NUCLEAR CONSTRUCTION TEAM INCLUDING 15 AMERICANS WORKING NEAR PIACENZA. THIS IS MAIN BODY OF GE GROUP IN ITALY SINCE ONLY TWO AMERICANS STATIONED IN GENOA DOING LIAISON WITH ANSALDO, GE PARTNER IN BUILDING CAORSO NUCLEAR REACTOR.

2. GENERAL MANAGER FRANCESCO DAMONTI, ITALIAN, CALLED ON CONGEN TO EXCHANGE IMPRESSIONS AND SEEK COUNSEL. AFTER HEARING DETAILS OF GENOA PHONE THREAT, WE BOTH SURMISED CALL MIGHT BE HOAX SINCE BRIGATE ROSSE SEEM NEVER TO WARN VICTIMS AND CALLER APPARENTLY NOT SURE OF FACTS - ANOTHER DEPARTURE FROM BR EXPERIENCE. CAMONTI ASKED WHAT TO DO. WE REVIEWED RECOMMENDED PRACTICES, PROVIDED COPY OF DEPT'S BOOKLET
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ON OVERSEAS BUSINESS SECURITY AND RECOMMENDED THAT HE CALL IN GE SECURITY DIVISION FOR PROFESSIONAL GUIDANCE BUT HE SAID NO SUCH SERVICE AVAILABLE. WE THEN URGED THAT GE ENGAGE PROFESSIONAL SECURITY COUNSELING FIRM AND PROVIDED NAMES OF US FIRMS WHICH RSO ROME QUICKLY OBTAINED FROM DEPT. BY PHONE FOR US.

3. WE ALSO SPOKE TO PREFECT OF PIACENZA WHO UNAWARE OF THREAT. HE IMMEDIATELY BEGAN INVESTIGATION AND INFORMED US MORNING MAY 24 THAT SPECIAL SURVEILLANCE BEING PROVIDED FOR NINE GE FAMILIES LIVING IN PIACENZA. REMAINDER LIVE IN MILAN. CAORSO WORK SITE ITSELF IS HEAVILY GUARDED FOR NUCLEAR SECURITY REASONS AND PREFECT ASSURED US THAT US EMPLOYEES WITHIN SITE WELL PROTECTED. HE VOLUNTEERED THAT THREAT DOES NOT SOUND LIKE BR BUT WANTED TAKE NO CHANCES.

4. GE CAORSO INFORMED US MAY 24 THAT ONE OF US STAFF HAD REQUESTED REPATRIATION AND IS DEPARTING. CARABINIERI HAVE BEEN GIVEN ADDRESSES OF PIACENZA EMPLOYEES, REQUEST HAS BEEN MADE FOR US SECURITY CONSULTING FIRM, EMPLOYEES HAVE BEEN GIVEN COPY OF DEPT BOOKLET AND BRIEFED ON SITUATION.

5. WE HAVE ALERTED MILAN POLICE AND PROVIDED LOCAL ADDRESSEES OF GE US EMPLOYEES THIS MORNING. FINA

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